JULY 1, 2009 WEEKLY UPDATE



Have a Safe and Happy Fourth of July!

Killer Found . . . More Sought. We all remember the senseless killings that occurred during the first hour of the 2003 New Year. Valencia Park resident Carol Waites and Sharen Burton stopped at Dr. J's Liquor store to purchase a fire log when gunfire broke out. The pair was coming from worshipping at the True Faith Missionary Baptist Church when they were both shot in the back during a rival gang shootout in front of the store.

These heinous murders outraged our community. I was the Chief of Staff for newly elected Councilman Charles Lewis when these killings happened. Charles and I were infuriated by these murders in the heart of the district. Protests were held. Churches in the area mobilized organizations and individuals to help support the victims' families and bring the criminals to justice. Out of this tragedy was born Black Men United, a unified group of men and women from all walks of life determined to improve safety and living conditions for all.

When the District Attorney informed me of the impending indictment of James Carter for the murder of the Ms. Waites and Ms. Burton, I knew my district would be pleased with the news – ONE LESS CRIMINAL OFF OUR STREETS. However, let us not forget that at least seven and as many as 11 more gunpersons were involved in the shootings that night. They too, need to come to justice. If you have information regarding this case, you might be eligible for a \$50,000 reward. Let's work together to clean up our area and remove this scum.

We should all be thankful for our law enforcement officials at all levels who continue to dedicate their time and resources toward solving this crime. To the clergy, who put aside their denominational and religious differences to work together to respond to murder, I say thank you. I am also appreciative of the hundreds of District Four residents who committed themselves to this effort. Please continue to pray for the victims' families, the capture of others involved in this case, and the end of gang violence and its causes everywhere.



As I remain committed toward ensuring the City's budget is balanced in the fairest way possible, ensuring vital services are not affected, I will be taking a 6% salary reduction beginning July 1, 2009. I have also reduced my office budget by more than the \$32,000 that was requested by the Mayor, and my staff will be taking 6% reductions based on taking days off without pay. My office will also be reduced by two staff members.

Unfortunately some in the media have printed misleading stories about my intentions. As I stated back in April, I join my fellow city employees in taking a 6% compensation reduction. My office is taking a tremendous hit. However, my staff and I will continue to do so much more with less. We currently work over 50-60 hours per week without overtime. However, this is the job we signed on for and as everyone knows, we work very hard for the people of my District and the city of San Diego. City employees and many other non-city workers are giving up a lot in these tough economic times and we will do no less.

<u>Looking forward to a SAFE Summer . . . Summer is here!</u> As we enjoy the next few months it is important to remember safety.

<u>Curfew</u>: This summer Southeastern Police Captain Tony McElroy and his division team are implementing more monthly curfew sweeps throughout the 4th District. The curfew law within the City of San Diego is from 10:00 p.m. until 6:00 a.m. the next day for individuals under the age of 18. Exceptions to the curfew law include: if the juvenile is traveling to or from work; if the juvenile is attending an official school, religious or other recreational activity supervised by adults or if the juvenile is involved in an emergency. For additional information regarding curfews contact, Officer Alonzo Alexander at (619)527-3541.

<u>Underage Alcohol Consumption</u>: This time of year often sees a dangerous spike in underage drinking, a fact that puts many teens and young adults at risk. Sadly, some kids end the school year and never live to see the start of another. Sometimes adults host underage drinking parties thinking that they are protecting kids from harm. Please know that hosting an underage drinking party does not protect young people. Such parties send a wrong message to our youth – that drugs or alcohol must be involved to have a good time.

Underage drinking could lead to: drunk driving incidents, unplanned sex, unplanned pregnancies, sexual and other violent assaults, and alcohol poisoning, just to name a few.

Parents, at this time of year, take the time to be clear about what your children are getting into. **Talk to them.**



Adults and teens should be aware that the City of San Diego does enforce a Social Host Law that penalizes teens and adults who host underage drinking parties. Specifically, the law states that anyone hosting a party, gathering or event where minors drink may be: Cited/arrested; Fined up to \$1000; Sentenced to six months in jail; Required to perform community service; and/or billed for police and emergency services (such as paramedics, firefighters etc.) This may run into the tens of thousands of dollars. For additional information, contact Jayli Jackson, Prevention Program Manager at the Palavra Tree Inc. at 619-263-7768.

Michael Joseph Jackson's death on June 25, 2009 at the age of 50 years old has left the world in shock. He will always be remembered as the *King of Pop*. Jackson was a pop culture icon through his timeless music as well as his worldwide humanitarian efforts. Almost everyone has their favorite Michael Jackson song, whether it is *Bad*, *Billie Jean*, *Beat It*, or *Smooth Criminal*. His album *Thriller* sold more copies worldwide than any other album.

Not only was Jackson praised for his musical genius, but he was also recognized for his willingness to give to those in need. He wrote the song *We Are the World* with Lionel Richie and helped to organize the *United We Stand: What More Can I Give* benefit concert in the wake of September 11 tragedy.

We have lost a musical genius, talented entertainer, humanitarian and world philanthropist. Michael Jackson will be greatly missed not only in the world of music, but in the world itself.

YOU MAY WANT TO KNOW

Common Ground Theatre is hosting a fundraising event on Thursday, July 2, 2009 at Magnolia's Restaurant from 4:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. This fundraiser will support the oldest African American Theatre Company in San Diego. You will have a chance to meet and eat with the cast members of *Jazz Queens Cast Blue Shadows* and be serenaded with selections from Dinah Washington and Billie Holiday as you dine. Please call the Common Ground Theatre for additional information at (619) 263-7911 or visit www.CommonGroundTheatre.org.

The MultiCultural IPA and the San Ysidro Health Center will host a Town Hall Community Forum on Health Care Reform on Saturday, July 11, 2009 from 1:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. at the Joe & Vi Jacobs Center (404 Euclid Avenue). The keynote speaker is The Honorable John Conyers, Jr., U.S. Representative. Come hear about the current health care debate on the Public Insurance Option. For more information please contact Elizabeth Bustos at (619) 231-9300 ext. 3104, (619) 203-6020 or emailebustos@syhc.org.



Community Clean-ups are continuing to be held throughout the 4th District.

I commend, thank, and congratulate the many community volunteers, city staff, non-profit organizations and EDCO Waste & Recycling Services that assist in these efforts. Keeping our communities clean and free of debris is an ongoing effort we all must continue to be involved in. Special community cleanup event areas are selected based upon citizen requests, pledges of community involvement and previous citizen participation levels. Please feel free to call Solid Waste Code Enforcement Officer Alejandro Alvarado at (858) 627-3317 if you would like to request a clean-up in your area and/or if you have questions.

At the June 2, 2009 community clean-up held in the 4th District community of Mountain View, a total of 6.37 tons of waste was collected. Of this, 5.71 tons were non-recyclable items, and 1.02 tons consisted of metals and appliances from the neighborhood. Ms. Cargic, the residents of Mountain View and the City of San Diego's Environmental Services Department are commended for their assistance and support.

At the June 13, 2009 community clean-up held in the 4th District of Jamacha, a total of 48.97 tons of waste was collected. Of this, 38.36 tons were non-recyclables and 10.61 tons consisted of metals and appliances from the neighborhood. The Jamacha Community Council, community members, the City of San Diego's Environmental Services Department and Environmental Services Officer Michael Flores are commended for their assistance and support.

At the June 24, 2009 community clean-up held in the 4th District of Valencia Park, a total of 3.67 tons of waste was collected. Of this, 3.26 tons were non-recyclables, and 0.41 tons were metals and appliances from the neighborhood. Mr. Pompeyo Aguinaldo, community residents of Valencia Park and the San Diego's Environmental Services Department are commended for their assistance and support.

BOARDS & COMMISSIONS:

An opportunity for you to volunteer your services exists with the many City of San Diego Boards and Commissions. Please visit the City's web site at www.sandiego.gov and view the many boards and commissions available for you to possibly serve on. You will find that several members' terms are expiring, who is responsible for nominating and appointing members, and what the terms and requirements for service are. Please call Benelia Santos-Hunter at 236-6644 if you are interested in serving as a 4th District representative on a particular Board and/or Commission. Councilman Young is seeking qualified individuals to nominate for service on the following Boards and/or Commissions. Nominations will be submitted to the Mayor's office for consideration to appoint.



COMMUNITY MEETINGS:

Date	Community	Time	Location	Staff
7/2/09	Mount Hope	6:30 p.m.	Macedonia Baptist Church	Venus Molina
			625 Quail	
7/2/09	Valencia Park Town Council	6:30 p.m.	Valencia Park Elementary	Jimmie Slack
			5880 Skyline Drive	
7/2/09	Oak Park Community Council	7:00 p.m.	Oak Park School Auditorium	Jimmie Slack
			2606 54th Street	
7/6/09	Great Skyline Hills Town Council	6:00 p.m.	Skyline Park and Rec Center	Jimmie Slack
			8285 Skyline Drive	
7/6/09	City Heights Area Planning Committee	6:30 p.m.	San Diego Workforce Partnership	Bruce Williams
	Meeting		3910 University Avenue	
7/6/09	Paradise Hills Neighborhood Watch	7:00 p.m.	United Church of Christ	Liezl Mangonon
	Council		5810 Alleghany Street	
7/7/09	Jamacha Neighborhood Council	6:00 p.m.	Church of Christ	Venus Molina
			580 69 th Street	

SAVE THIS DATE:

49th Anniversary of Somali Independence Day, Saturday July 18, 2009 from 2:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. at Market Creek Plaza. This free community event will feature poetry, music, kids activities and more. For more information, call (619) 527-6161.

Heroes-In-Training (A CPR Anytime Event) will be held on Sunday, July 19, 2009 at 10:30 a.m. in PETCO Park. San Diego City Firefighters, Project Heart Beat and The Padres Foundation will train youth league players (ages 10 to 15) to perform CPR and save lives. *Training is limited to 100 youth league players, one CPR Anytime kit per family.* For more information or to RVSP no later than July 10, 2009, please contact San Diego Project Heart Beat at (619) 243-0909.

Camp Charles 2009 will be held on Saturday, July 25, 2009 from 8:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. at the George L. Stevens Senior Community Center (570 S. 65th Street). This is a free, one-day summer camp for young men ages 7 thru 15, dedicated to the late San Diego City Councilmember Charles L. Lewis III. This innovative mentorship program is designed to present at-risk and underserved males between the ages of 7-15 with positive life experiences. The registration deadline is July 1, 2009 and space is limited. For more information call (619) 434-3454, email charos@charlesllewis3.org or visit www.charlesllewis3.org.

Samoan Festival on Saturday, August 15, 2009 from 2:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. at Market Creek Plaza. Call (619) 527-6161 for more information.

THANK YOU...for reading my E-mail Message for the Week. If you would like to receive this E-mail on a regular basis or be removed from the mailing list, please e-mail me at anthonyyoung@sandiego.gov.

